

White Sulphur Springs

National Fish Hatchery

Fact Sheet for Members of Congress

Represented by Members of Congress:

Senator Robert C. Byrd (D)
Senator John D. Rockefeller IV (D)
Rep. Nick Rahall (D-3rd)

Contact

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Profile

Established:	1900
Current acres:	98
Staff:	8.5
FY 2008 budget:	\$726,524
2008 volunteer hours:	500
2008 visitation:	20,000

Purpose

White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery was established to produce fish for the nation's streams.

Mission

Working with the community and partners to be good stewards of both the environment and historical significance of White Sulphur Springs NFH by providing recreational fishing opportunities, recovering fish, mussels and other wildlife and their habitats, and promoting awareness and appreciation of our cultural and natural resources for the benefit of all people.

Management Activities

- Produce and ship 8.4 million rainbow trout eggs to 20 different federal, state and tribal hatcheries as part of the National Broodstock Program.
- Provide 13,000 retired rainbow trout to West Virginia DNR, Maryland DNR and the Eastern Bank of Cherokee Indians.

- Produce juvenile freshwater mussels to recover imperiled species and reestablish the water filtration capacity of mussel beds.
- Maintain Class A, disease-free status for the fish hatchery.
- Work with state, federal, and international partners to recover freshwater mussels in the United States and around the world.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>

January 2009

Highlights

Provide refuge for federally endangered freshwater mussels and recover endangered northern riffleshell and James spiny mussel through propagation and reintroduction.

Co-hosted the Children's Fishing Derby with the White Sulphur Springs Rotary Club to celebrate National Fishing Week.

One of two national fish hatcheries with the expertise to produce federally endangered freshwater mussels.

Co-hosted the 4th annual Freshwater Folk Festival with the Friends of the WSSNFH. Over 30 natural resource agencies presented hands-on activities to more than 2,000 visitors.

Selected by the Fisheries Division to serve as one of two projects under the National Pilot Outdoor Classroom Initiative.



Freshwater mussels

USFWS

Issues

Acquire land to protect the hatchery's water resources.

Install solar panels, windmills and water turbines to reduce operational costs at the hatchery and reduce our impact on the environment.

Work with partners to improve mussel propagation technology and recover imperiled freshwater mussels.

Work with partners to complete future phases of the Pilot Outdoor Classroom, including a wetland boardwalk, trails and Aquarium of the Appalachians.

